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October 2, 2007

### **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

The Committee on Finance convened on October 2, 2007, with Chairman Maryann Heuston presiding and Committee Members Aldermen John Connolly and Dennis Sullivan also present and voting. Also present were Aldermen William Roche, Thomas Taylor and Rebekah Gewirtz as well as Michael Lambert from the Mayor's Office, Finance Director Ed Bean, Solicitor John Gannon, Chief Fire Engineer John Gannon, George Landers from ISD, Peter Mills and Charles O'Brien from the DPW, Stephanie Hirsch from Somerstat, Gerald Boyle from Capital Projects, and Monica Lamboy, Gregg Jenkins, Ken Costa, Stephen Winslow, Arn Franzen, Lisa LePore and Anne Thomas from SPCD.

Several matters were discussed in committee including a request for an appropriation of \$440,000 for the purchase of a new 2008 pump truck for the Fire Department. The new truck has an expected life of at least 12 years and will replace equipment that has been in service since 1989, (18 years).

Also discussed was a request to accept \$74,000 in environmental mitigation funds for the Kiley Barrel site. Mr. Mills told the committee that there is a need for soil remediation at the site and he reviewed the scope of the work to be performed with the members. Chairman Heuston cautioned that the city be aware of the risks associated with remediation and Alderman Connolly expressed concern that the remediation not trigger future problems and asked that Mr. Mills report back to the committee on the progress of the project. Alderman Heuston's motion **that the Environment Programs Manager prepare a report on the Kiley Barrel site incident and update the Board of Aldermen with any additional information regarding the risks to the community on what was released into the air**, was approved.

The committee discussed a request to extend the hours of a ResiStat Analyst and Chairman Heuston stated her concerns as the savings could be better used to fund public safety or inspectional services personnel.

Several requests for funding to renovate parks within the city were discussed along with a request to discontinue the Powderhouse School Renovation Project and appropriate unused bond proceeds for repairs to public buildings.

The committee discussed matters before it and took action on the following 21 items:

**181681:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting an appropriation of the remaining balance of \$356,902 from the Edgerly (Capuano) School Land Acquisition Bond Issue to the Argenziano School Construction Project.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**183550:** Order - By Ald. Roche, Sullivan, Heuston, Desmond and the Entire Board, That the Commissioner of Public Works ensure that Frank Santangelo and Gerry Boyle coordinate a meeting with Recreation Commissioner Jim

Halloran

and the Somerville Youth Soccer President to discuss the renovation/creation of soccer fields at the Capuano and Lincoln Park Schools, to best accommodate the soccer program and to determine if grant money is available for synthetic playing surfaces.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**183919:** Communication - Acting Treasurer/Tax Collector submitting her Public Official's Bonds for approval.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**183966:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting an appropriation of \$285,090.05 from the Traffic and Parking Mitigation Acct. to establish a Traffic Safety Stabilization Fund under MGL c40 s5B, for traffic and pedestrian safety improvements.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**183967:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting an appropriation of \$10,000 from the RCG 17 Ivaloo Trust Mitigation Acct. to establish a Traffic Safety Stabilization Fund under MGL c40 s5B, for traffic and pedestrian safety

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**184064:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval of an application for a grant of \$495,000 for SPCD to renovate Central Hill Park.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**184065:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval for an appropriation of \$785,000 for the renovation of Hodgkins Park and Ballfield and authorization for the Treasurer to issue a bond.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**184066:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval for an appropriation of \$440,000 for the purchase of Fire Dept. equipment and authorization for the Treasurer to issue a bond.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**184067:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval for an appropriation of \$395,000 for the renovation of Albion Park and authorization for the Treasurer to issue a bond.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**184068:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval for an appropriation of \$395,000 for the renovation of Grimmons park and authorization for the Treasurer to issue a bond.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**184069:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval to discontinue the Powderhouse Community School Renovation Project and appropriate \$488,954 in unused bond proceeds for repairs to public buildings under FY08 Capital Investment Plan.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**184076:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval to expend a grant of \$437,752 from the State Office of Transportation to SPCD for the Union Sq. Roadway and Streetscape Improvement Project.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**184077:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval to expend a grant of \$200,000 from the EPA Brownfields Cleanup fund to SPCD for remediation of the city-owned property at 112A Central St.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**184078:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval to expend a grant of \$30,990 from the MA Cultural Council for Arts Council programming.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**184079:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval to expend a grant of \$8,000 from Federal Realty Investment Trust to support youth activities.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**184080:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval to expend a grant of \$7,246.63 from The MA DOR Underground Storage Tank Grant Program to the Office of Sustainability & Environment for removing or replacing underground storage tanks.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**184081:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval to expend a grant of \$2,000 from the Linda F. Zucker Memorial Youth Fund for the Arts Council's Art in the Garden summer program.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**184214:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval for the use of \$18,621 in available funds in the SomerStat Salaries Acct. to extend a ResiStat Analyst from 25 hours/week to full-time.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should NOT be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**184215:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval to expend a grant of \$8,000 from the MA Cultural Council for FY08 for the Arts Council Books of Hope Program.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**184216:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval to expend a grant of \$6,000 from the MA Cultural Council for FY08 for the Arts Council.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**184236:** Communication from Mayor - Requesting acceptance of \$74,000 in environmental mitigation funds from P. Gioioso and Sons Inc. for the Kiley Barrel site.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

## **COMMITTEE REPORT**

Report of the Committee on Finance,  
October 2, 2007

In Board of Aldermen

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Clerk